



VCU



COUNTDOWN

TO

GRADUATION



THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS!

May 2021 Graduation Candidate:

I know that since March 2020, your academic experience has been very challenging. Nevertheless, earning your degree is a milestone that deserves special recognition. Grad Fair begins with representatives available to assist you with questions regarding announcements, diploma frames and class rings March 29 - April 2, 2021, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Barnes & Noble at VCU located at 1111 West Broad Street. Representatives will be available by appointment only. Please schedule at v2.waitwhile.com/welcome/balfour or scan the QR code below. Grad Images will also be on-site for graduation portraits March 30- April 1, 2021, from 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Students must bring their own regalia, per COVID-19 protocols, which can be purchased at Barnes & Noble @ VCU or online at <https://www.balfour.com/vcu>.

Please review the enclosed information carefully and contact me at vcudean@vcu.edu, if you have any questions. If you are unable to attend, information regarding regalia, announcements, class rings and diploma frames will be available on the VCU commencement website at <http://commencement.vcu.edu>. At this time, no decisions have been made regarding an in-person commencement ceremony but more information will be provided on the commencement website.

Congratulations on your achievement and best wishes for your future endeavors!

Dr. Reuban Rodriguez
Associate Vice Provost and Dean of Student
Division of Student Affairs



CAP AND GOWN

Academic regalia prices, including cap, gown, hood and tassel are: bachelor set, \$56.98; master set, \$73.98; Ph.D./Ed.D. set, \$108.98; and professional doctorate set, \$59.98 (professional doctorate programs include D.P.T., D.D.S., Pharm.D., M.D. and D.N.A.P.). Prices do not include sales tax. Regalia will be available for purchase during the Grad Fair events, see page 2 for scheduled events.

If you are unable to purchase your regalia from the Barnes & Noble @ VCU locations, please visit www.balfour.com/vcu to purchase online starting April 3, 2021. Shipping charges will apply.

Scan the QR code below for a tutorial on how to wear the gown and hood.

Note, all medical degree regalia is at Barnes & Noble @ VCU Medical Center only.



GRADUATION PHOTOS

Schedule your graduation portrait appointment with Grad Images between March 30 - April 1 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Barnes & Noble @ VCU. In accordance with COVID-19 protocols, students must provide their own regalia. Appointments can be made by scanning the QR code below.



RING INFORMATION



Join the Ring Tradition and choose from our custom-crafted class ring options, find out your ring size and purchase your class ring during the Grad Fair events (dates on page 2). Current STAT donors will save \$60 on class rings, or if you update your post-graduation information with VCU Alumni, you could receive \$35 off your class ring. Full collection can be seen online at balfour.com/vcu.

GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graduation marks an important milestone. Share the wonderful news with VCU standard or personalized graduation announcements. Standard graduation announcements include two envelopes and a blank name card. These are available for purchase at the Barnes & Noble @ VCU on both campuses.

Personalized announcements are available at www.balfour.com/vcu or (800) 433-0296. These incorporate the graduate's name, degree and major. Please allow 5-7 business days for personalized announcement delivery.

For more information on class ring or graduation announcements, visit balfour.com/vcu or call (866) 225-3687.



REGALIA ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A fund has been established to provide relief for those who need financial assistance in purchasing regalia. This fund is administered by the Division of Student Affairs. Students may access the application for regalia assistance starting March 15. online at: <https://dos.vcu.edu/services/financial-support/>.

Eligibility: Undergraduate, graduate and professional students who will graduate in May 2021 may apply for assistance. Funds are limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first served basis. Assistance will be for ONE SET of regalia (cap, gown and hood).

Applying for Assistance: Students must complete the application form and are required to write a 12-point font, double spaced essay of no more than two pages, reflecting on their experiences as a VCU student and the significance of graduation for the student, their friends and their family, as well as indicating their financial need for regalia assistance.

Administration of the Award: Financial need will be considered as part of the process. Students will retrieve their regalia from Barnes & Noble @ VCU on either campus per the timeline below. Note: Reimbursement will not be made to students who have previously purchased regalia; assistance is not applicable for online purchases.

Timetable: Applications will be accepted through Friday, April 16. Funds are limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first served basis until funds run out.



YOUR GRAD CHECKLIST:



VISIT COMMENCEMENT WEBSITE

commencement.vcu.edu



PURCHASE CAP & GOWN

Starting March 29 at Barnes & Noble @ VCU



ORDER CLASS RING & GRAD. ANNOUNCEMENTS

By appointment, March 29 - April 2, 2021 @ v2.waitwhile.com/book/Balfour or online @ Balfour.com/vcu



LIFE AFTER GRADUATION: ALUMNI 101

An online celebration with alumni!
May 7, register online: <https://rb.gy/ee2zj9>



RING CEREMONY

Virtual - Stay tuned for updates at vcualumni.org



COMMENCEMENT CELEBRATION

Please check the Commencement website for the latest updates



Every Graduate is an Alumni of VCU Libraries

Enjoy your free Alumni Benefits and continue learning after graduation!

VCU Alumni receive free borrowing privileges for materials (books, DVDs and CDs). Alumni cardholders may borrow up to 10 items.

Alumni have access to...

- Study spaces
- Technology
- Makerspaces and workshops
- Events hosted by the Friends of VCU Libraries
- And so much more

Learn more about VCU Libraries Alumni Benefits by visiting go.vcu.edu/alumnibenefits.



TECH TROUBLES?

We can fixIT!
Don't let your RamSupport run out!

Your computer has been through a lot these last few years. Stop by RamTech's fixIT counter to get a diagnosis check from our tech team prior to graduation and use your RamSupport contract before it runs out. Don't forget, even as an Alum you can still shop our accessories! See store for details.

1111 West Broad Street | (804) VCU-TECH | ramtech.vcu.edu
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm | @RamTechVCU

RAMTECH
SHOP. SERVICE. SUPPORT. 

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You'll always be a Ram.

Stay connected after graduation.

Graduation isn't goodbye! Your relationship with VCU lasts a lifetime, and VCU Alumni is here, ready to welcome you to a thriving community of graduates (200,000 strong and counting!) and to provide opportunities for you to stay connected and supported no matter where life takes you.

Here are 10 things you can do to stay connected to your alma mater and our network of Rams.

1. Keep the VCU Mobile app:

Take VCU with you on your phone and switch your experience to "alumni" to stay up-to-date on events, benefits, chapters and more.

2. Get social:

Follow VCU Alumni on social media for the latest alumni profiles, events, live panels and "how to" demonstrations, giveaways, campus happenings and more.

3. Share your experience or benefit from the help of others:

Sign up for VCU Link to help the next generation of students or connect with alumni in industries by participating in flash mentorings online.

4. Network: Attend a virtual networking event to meet other alumni working in your industry.

5. Spread the word: Loved your VCU experience? Tell everyone, especially students who are looking for their future college.

6. Update your contact information:

Share your new mailing and email addresses so we can keep you updated on VCU and alumni activities.

7. Join a chapter:

Get involved with a regional, academic, shared-interest or identity-based group to make new and lasting connections.

8. Alumni career programs:

From career coaches to industry networks and events, we've got opportunities to connect to your career.

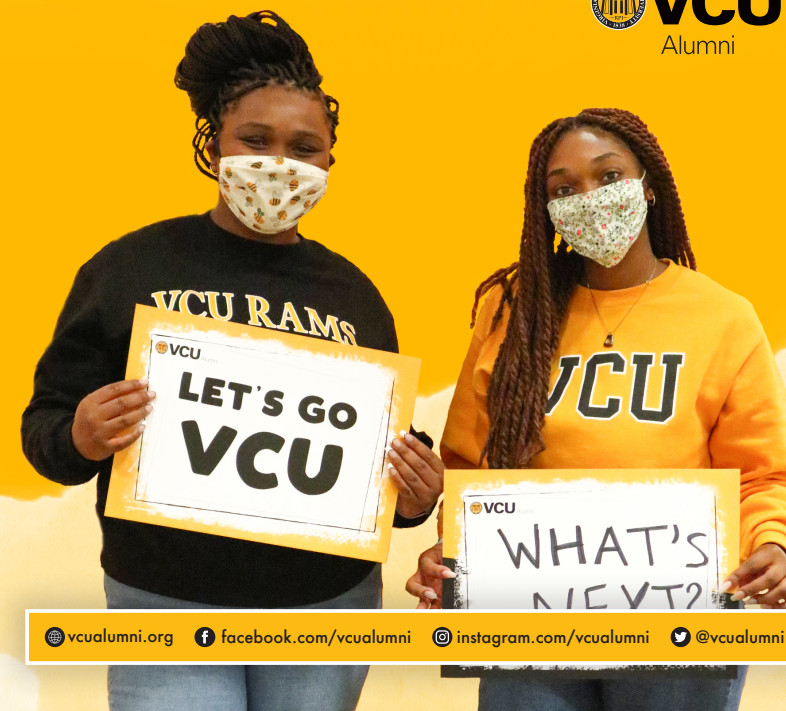
9. Visit campus.

While coming back might not be an option soon, we can't wait to see you in person when the time is right.

10. Bleed black and gold:

Proudly wear and display your VCU gear. You never know who might notice and strike up a conversation!

vcualumni.org



vcualumni.org [facebook.com/vcualumni](https://www.facebook.com/vcualumni) [instagram.com/vcualumni](https://www.instagram.com/vcualumni) [@vcualumni](https://twitter.com/vcualumni)

VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

OUR COMMUNITY STRONGER THAN EVER!

www.recports.vcu.edu
Recsports@vcu.edu
804.828.9489

Special VCU Alumni Pricing Available!

Alumni Memberships Include:

- Access to both Cary Street Gym & MCV Campus Gym
- Optional personal training and massage therapy
- Access to both VCU Aquatics Centers
- State-of-the-art fitness equipment
- Group Exercise Classes Included

Disclaimer: Due to COVID-19, Facilities and services are subject to change at any time.



contiki

VCU Alumni

Hi there,
we're Contiki.

We bring travelers together from all corners of the globe to discover new cultures and a little part of themselves along the way.

We are incredibly excited to be partnering with VCU to provide the experience of a lifetime.



VCU Grand Trip

As Contiki, we believe that life's greatest lessons are learned when traveling and our trips are perfect for exploring the world beyond the classroom. Join your fellow Rams on this VCU trip to Greece in 2021!



SPACE IS LIMITED
For more info, visit

CALL OR EMAIL TO BOOK!
1-866-266-8454 | GROUPS@CONTIKI.COM



The grad trip for 2021, VCU GRAD TRIP!
Greek Island Hopping, June 5 - 17, 2021

USE PROMO CODE: RAMSTRAVEL10 TO SAVE \$100 ON YOUR TRIP. *Restrictions apply

Get Social
@contiki



www.contiki.com

CST #1001728-20



VCU

Business Services

1111 West Broad St.

Suite A

Richmond, VA 23298

2020 Countdown to Graduation

MONROE PARK CAMPUS

March 29 - April 2, 2021

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Barnes & Noble @ VCU

STAMP

MAIL INFO